CHAPTER 6.11.

## ZOONOSES TRANSMISSIBLE FROM NON-HUMAN PRIMATES

## **USA Comments**

Article 6.11.1.

## Introduction

There are about 376 different species of non-human primates belonging to 3 suborders which are split into 15 families. The tree shrew family (previously considered as belonging to the primates) has not been included in these recommendations.

All non-human primate species are included in Appendix I or Appendix II of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and may be transported internationally only if accompanied by the permits or certificates required under CITES.

Most imported non-human primates are destined for research, educational or breeding purposes <u>and their sourcing should be in accordance with Article 7.8.7 of Code Chapter 7.8.</u> Before non-human primates are used for any purpose, all alternatives to their use should be explored.

Rationale: suggested addition so that the referenced guidance may be more easily found.

Public health and safety, *animal welfare* and pathogen introduction to wild populations are the primary issues of concern in the importation and keeping of non-human primates. This is especially true where close contact between humans and animals, their body fluids, faeces and tissues is likely to occur. Minimising the *risk* requires well-trained personnel and the following of stringent personal hygiene standards.

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